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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL
REPORT
JULY 1, 1950 - JUNE 30, 1951

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL

JULY 1, 1950 - JUNE 30, 1951

To the Commissioner of Agriculture:

The report of the Division of Livestock Disease Control for the fiscal year July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951, inclusive, is herewith submitted.

During the year Massachusetts has been free from rabies, though infection has moved closer as the disease has been diagnosed east of the Hudson River which removes a barrier between the disease in New York and this State.

For the first time the disease of Listeriosis, commonly known as circling disease, has been officially reported in the Commonwealth. This disease can affect many species of animals. The only means of a definite diagnosis is by laboratory examination. As yet, no satisfactory treatment has been found.

There was no legislation pertaining to the Division enacted by the legislature during the 1951 fiscal year, and the Division has not requested any new rules and regulations or changes in those that were in force.

From reports made by the Inspectors of Animals, as a result of the annual inspection, it has been noted that there has been an increase in the number of sheep, goats and swine, whereas the cattle population has decreased slightly. As has been reported each year there are again less horses than in the previous year.

Calfhood vaccination is offered free of charge to owners of cattle at the time of official tuberculin testing. There has been a slight increase in the number of calves vaccinated this year. The increase is smaller than was expected which apparently is due to the fact that farmers are raising less calves because of the high price of milk and the price paid for veal.

The percentage of tuberculin infection in the State continues to drop as shown by the result of tuberculin testing. With the increase in the number of goats the number of requests for the tuberculin and blood tests to be applied to these animals continues to increase.

There has been an increase in the number of Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Vaccinated Herds.

The following tables and data show in detail the activities of the Division for the period of this report, July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951, inclusive.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

(Chapter 319, Section 33, General Laws, Tercentenary Edition,
as amended by Chapter 272, Acts of 1934
and Chapter 417, Acts of 1946)

There were twelve thousand six hundred seven (12,607) tuberculin herd tests, one hundred eighty-four thousand one hundred thirty-five (184,135) animal tests applied to which one hundred seventy-three (173) head of cattle, or 9/100 of 1% were declared reactors, as compared with thirteen thousand eight hundred twenty-two (13,822) tuberculin herd tests and one hundred ninety-eight thousand nine hundred nine (198,909) animal tests applied the previous fiscal year to which three hundred eighty (380) head of cattle or 19/100 of 1% reacted.

Seventy-seven (77), or 44½%, of the one hundred seventy-three (173) cattle declared to be reactors were reported as having "no visible" lesions of tuberculosis at time of slaughter.

One thousand six hundred fifty-three (1,653) herds containing seven thousand seven hundred sixty-three (7,763) head of cattle, included in the census report of June 30, 1950, were disposed of by owners prior to the census for the period ending June 30, 1951.

Four hundred seventy-six (476) herds in which testing has not previously been conducted and containing two thousand seven hundred seventy (2,770) head of cattle recorded in the following tables as "first tests," are included in the census report for the period ending June 30, 1951.

Tuberculin tests are conducted by State and Federal accredited veterinarians under a State and Federal Co-operative Plan for the establishment of tuberculosis-free herds and the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Following is a summary of tuberculin tests as made by veterinarians for the twelve month period of this report.

	<u>Herds</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Reactors</u>
Veterinarians paid by the State on a salary basis	2,849	36,189	1
Veterinarians paid by the State on a per diem basis	7,312	104,940	120
Veterinarians paid by the Federal Government	2,392	41,035	52
Veterinarians authorized by re- quest of the owners and paid by them	54	1,971	-
	<u>12,607</u>	<u>184,135</u>	<u>173</u>

TUBERCULIN TESTING BY MONTHS

	FIRST TESTS												RETESTS												TOTALS				
	CLEAN				WITH REACTORS								CLEAN				WITH REACTORS												
1950-1951	Hrds	Pb	Gd	Tot	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Total	Pb	Gd	R	Hrds	Pb	Gd	Total	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Pb	Gd	R	Hrds	Pb	Gd	Total	R		
July	39	24	85	109								544	693	4179	4872	5		144	144		11	11	588	717	4408	5125	11		
August	28	6	59	65								457	320	4162	4482	1		29	29		6	6	486	326	4250	4576	6		
September	19	10	58	68								732	571	6395	6966	5	6	89	95		9	8	756	587	6542	7129	8		
October	40	8	170	178								1184	2042	12130	14172	2		204	204		2	2	1226	2050	12504	14554	2		
November	49		291	291								1349	2909	19241	22150	9	124	250	374		5	23	28	1407	3033	19782	22815	28	
December	28	96	132	228								957	2380	13578	15958	4	3	294	297		24	24	989	2479	14004	16483	24		
January	61	40	396	436								1573	4391	19647	24038	15	24	860	884		2	16	18	1649	4455	20903	25358	18	
February	55	51	213	264								1522	2793	20713	23506	8	3	204	207		2	13	15	1585	2847	21130	23977	15	
March	33	17	237	254								1212	3386	19053	22439	6		176	176		10	10	1251	3403	19466	22869	10		
April	53	78	413	491								1173	5323	17474	23297	5	19	154	173		28	28	1231	5420	18541	23961	28		
May	42	46	228	274								836	1647	10547	12194	5		106	106		21	21	883	1693	10881	12574	21		
June	29	23	89	112								525	448	4053	4501	2		101	101		2	2	556	471	4243	4714	2		
	476	399	2371	2770								12064	26903	151672	178575	67	179	2611	2790		9	164	173	12607	27481	156654	184135	173	

TUBERCULIN TESTING BY COUNTIES

	FIRST TESTS												RETESTS												TOTALS				
	CLEAN				WITH REACTORS								CLEAN				WITH REACTORS												
1950-1951	Hr	Pb	Gd	Total	Hr	Pb	Gd	Total	Tb	Gd	R	Hr/s	Pb	Gd	Total	Hr	Pb	Gd	Total	Pb	Gd	R	Hr	Pb	Gd	Total	R		
Barnstable	5		26	26								148	59	708	767								153	59	734	793			
Berkshire	63	54	318	372								1042	2939	15588	18527	4		141	141	1	28	29	1109	2993	16047	19640	29		
Bristol	42	48	334	382								1234	2401	16406	18807	20	13	662	675	24	24	1296	2462	17402	19864	24			
Dukes	5		6	6								88	127	502	629								93	127	508	635			
Essex	32	46	133	179								723	3730	8463	12193	6	43	429	472	1	5	6	761	3819	9025	12844	6		
Franklin	58	9	344	353								1394	1863	18438	20301	5	80	165	245	3	4	7	1457	1952	18947	20899	7		
Hampden	39	15	72	87								1083	1673	10541	12214								1122	1688	10613	12301			
Hampshire	34	35	175	210								1229	3002	15302	18304	2		56	56	4	4	1265	3037	15533	18570	4			
Middlesex	50	45	199	244								1171	2657	13688	16345	3	1	98	99	1	14	15	1224	2703	13985	16688	15		
Nantucket	2	23	5	28								16	20	92	112								18	43	97	140			
Norfolk	11	1	79	80								544	1698	6452	8150	2		48	48	2	2	557	1699	6579	8278	2			
Plymouth	44	8	207	215								757	1526	8507	10033	6	29	157	186	1	11	12	807	1563	8871	10434	12		
Suffolk												2	81	1	82								2	81	1	82			
Worcester	91	115	473	588								2633	5127	36984	42111	19	13	855	868	2	72	74	2743	5255	38312	43567	74		
	476	399	2371	2770								12064	26903	151672	178575	67	179	2611	2790	9	164	173	12607	27481	156,654	184135	173		

COUNTY CENSUS AND INFECTION

as of

(June 30, 1951)

County	Herds	Head	Infection			Three Head or Less*	
			Herds	Head	Reactors	Herds	Head
Barnstable	136	694				104	165
Berkshire	1,230	21,897	1	24	24	459	819
Bristol	1,218	17,855	7	199	7	500	823
Dukes	93	636				54	91
Essex	728	11,853	2	21	2	273	490
Franklin	1,403	19,732				498	935
Hampden	1,046	10,941				490	892
Hampshire	1,222	18,093				450	843
Middlesex	1,233	16,528	1	35	1	543	945
Nantucket	18	140				9	12
Norfolk	522	7,885				256	450
Plymouth	769	9,315	2	58	2	426	721
Suffolk	2	82					
Worcester	2,655	41,248	9	393	27	975	1,776
Total	12,275	176,899	22	730	63	5,037	8,962

*Included in columns 2 and 3

APPRAISALS

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '50		.		11	2,745.00	249.55	11	2,745.00	249.55
August				6	1,400.00	233.33	6	1,400.00	233.33
September				8	1,985.00	248.12	8	1,985.00	248.12
October				2	600.00	300.00	2	600.00	300.00
November	5	1,787.50	357.50	23	6,185.00	268.91	28	7,972.50	284.73
December				24	4,960.00	206.67	24	4,960.00	206.67
January '51	2	770.00	385.00	16	4,915.00	307.18	16	5,685.00	355.31
February	1	225.00	225.00	14	3,620.00	258.57	15	3,845.00	256.33
March				10	3,525.00	352.50	10	3,525.00	352.50
April				28	8,245.00	294.46	28	8,245.00	294.46
May				21	5,957.50	283.69	21	5,957.50	283.69
June				2	710.00	355.00	2	710.00	355.00
	8	2,782.50	347.81	165	44,847.50	271.80	171	47,630.00	278.53

SALVAGE

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '50				11	1,683.87	153.08	11	1,683.87	153.08
August				6	848.46	141.41	6	848.46	141.41
September				8	1,038.32	129.79	8	1,038.32	129.79
October				2	329.40	164.70	2	329.40	164.70
November	5	659.43	131.88	23	3,972.70	172.72	28	4,632.13	165.43
December				24	3,386.80	141.11	24	3,386.80	141.11
January '51	2	341.12	170.56	16	3,050.40	190.65	18	3,391.52	188.41
February	1	162.55	162.55	14	2,605.93	186.13	15	2,768.48	184.56
March				10	1,474.51	147.45	10	1,474.51	147.45
April				28	4,703.45	167.98	28	4,703.45	167.98
May				21	4,276.16	203.62	21	4,276.16	203.62
June				2	356.15	178.08	2	356.15	178.08
	8	1,163.10	145.38	165	27,726.15	168.03	173	28,889.25	166.99

INDEMNITY

	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
July '50				11	707.40	64.31	11	707.40	64.31
August				6	355.90	59.31	6	355.90	59.31
September				8	605.68	75.71	8	605.68	75.71
October				2	158.63	79.31	2	158.63	79.31
November	5	531.83	106.36	23	1,547.08	67.26	28	2,078.91	74.24
December				24	1,050.70	74.24	24	1,050.70	43.78
January '51	2	244.25	122.13	13	869.25	66.86	15	1,113.50	74.23
February	1	41.63	41.63	14	605.51	43.25	15	647.14	43.14
March				10	954.90	95.49	10	954.90	95.49
April				28	2,011.03	71.82	28	2,011.03	71.82
May				21	1,061.34	50.54	21	1,061.34	50.54
June				2	200.00	100.00	2	200.00	100.00
	8	817.71	102.21	162	11,127.42	68.68	170	10,945.13	64.38

TUBERCULIN TESTING OF GOATS

Upon written request from owners, this Division arranges for the testing of goats for Tuberculosis and Brucellosis. Under this service owners must agree that any goats declared reactors to either test will be immediately disposed of for slaughter with no compensation allowed by the Commonwealth.

Two hundred sixty (260) goats were tuberculin tested and two hundred fifty-two (252) were blood tested on eighteen (18) premises.

INTERSTATE RECEIPTS OF CATTLE

Two thousand twelve (2,012) permits were issued covering twenty-thousand eight hundred sixty-five (20,865) head of dairy and breeding cattle.

One thousand eight hundred nine (1,809) dairy cattle were received at the Brighton Quarantine Station, making a total of twenty-two thousand six hundred seventy-four (22,674) dairy and breeding cattle received from outside the Commonwealth.

	DAIRY CATTLE		BEEF CATTLE
	On Permit	At Brighton	On Permit
Alabama	1		
Canada	6,397		
Colorado	1		
Connecticut	1,497		62
Florida	2		
Illinois	24		236
Kansas	2		
Maine	1,748	1,644	
Maryland	4		
Michigan	34		
Minnesota	155		
New Hampshire	1,142	154	7
New Jersey	131		
New York	1,063		149
Ohio	104		
Pennsylvania	70		
Rhode Island	308		473
Vermont	7,888	11	108
Virginia	33		
West Virginia	5		
Wisconsin	256		
	20,865	1,809	1,035

QUARANTINE STATION AT BRIGHTON

Dairy Cattle:

	<u>Total</u> <u>Receipts</u>	<u>Released</u> <u>on Papers</u>	<u>Released</u> <u>After Test</u>	<u>Permit</u> <u>to Kill</u>	<u>Returned</u> <u>to Owner</u>
Maine	1,644	1,639	-	-	5
New Hampshire	154	154	-	-	-
Vermont	11	11	-	-	-
Total	1,809	1,804	-	-	5
Massachusetts	69	69	-	-	-
	1,878	1,873	-	-	5

Of the one thousand eight hundred seventy-three (1,873) cattle received and released one thousand five hundred thirty-seven (1,537) remained in Massachusetts, three hundred twenty-eight (328) were reshipped to Rhode Island, and eight (8) to Connecticut.

Diseased cattle received and released for immediate slaughter:

	<u>T. B.</u> <u>Reactors</u>	<u>From Quarantined</u> <u>Herds</u>	<u>Bang's Disease</u> <u>Reactors</u>	<u>Suspects</u>
Maine	-	-	393	-
Massachusetts	104	283	-	-
New Hampshire	4	-	457	-
Rhode Island	15	-	22	-
Vermont	-	-	118	-
	123	283	990	-

Dairy cattle were restricted to sales barn and special yards that have been cleaned and disinfected regularly.

All trucks carrying tuberculin reactors cleaned and disinfected before leaving the yards.

One hundred sixty-two (162) head of cattle were vaccinated for prevention of shipping fever, for which a total of twenty-four dollars and thirty cents (\$24.30) was collected. This service is furnished to owners without cost other than fifteen cents (\$.15) per animal to cover the cost of the biologic used.

Total number of livestock received at this station was as follows:

Cattle	-	82,926	Sheep	-	4,516
Calves	-	96,743	Swine	-	64,979

EXPORTS

Interstate certificates of health were issued on four thousand five hundred ninety-one (4,591) head of cattle exported to other States and Countries as follows:

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Head</u>
Arkansas	3
Canada	8
Connecticut	1,062
Costa Rica	1
Cuba	8
Florida	22
Georgia	1
Greece	2
Idaho	1
Illinois	7
Indiana	9
Iowa	56
Kansas	10
Maine	112
Maryland	38
Massachusetts	9
Michigan	3
Minnesota	1
Missouri	8
Montana	1
New Hampshire	207
New Jersey	47
New York	766
North Carolina	2
Ohio	31
Oklahoma	8
Pennsylvania	27
Rhode Island	1,798
South Africa	3
South America	2
South Dakota	1
Tennessee	1
Texas	3
Vermont	222
Virginia	84
Washington	1
West Virginia	2
Wisconsin	24
	<u>4,591</u>

BRUCELLOSIS

Vials for use in collecting blood samples and laboratory examination of the samples are furnished without expense to owners of domestic animals.

The division does not assign veterinarians for the drawing of blood samples from cattle except in cases of herds from which persons reported as affected with undulant fever have obtained their milk supply. Veterinarians are assigned to draw blood samples from goats under special agreement with owners.

The following tabulation is a record of results of examination of blood samples submitted to the laboratory from cattle intended for interstate shipment, for maintenance of the status of Accredited Bang's Disease-Free herds, from cattle in herds in the process of accreditation and from other animals.

	Negative	Positive*	Doubtful*	Unsatisfactory**	Total
Cattle	20,178	1,149	2,790	342	24,459
Goats	288	-	9	10	307
Dogs	2	-	-	-	2
Horses	1	-	-	-	1
	20,469	1,149	2,799	352	24,769

* Includes bloods from vaccinated cattle.

** Containers broken, insufficient amount of blood, or hemolyzed.

Accredited Herds: (June 30, 1951)

Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Herds	43
Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Vaccinated Herds	98
Cattle in Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Herds	1,238
Cattle in Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Vaccinated Herds	4,372

CALFHOOD VACCINATION
(for prevention of Brucellosis)

The vaccination of young stock between the ages of four months and time of first breeding under a State and Federal co-operative plan at time of the periodic tuberculin test is provided without expense to owners for such service and vaccine.

CALFHOOD VACCINATION
(by months)

	SALARIED AGENTS		PER DIEM AGENTS		FEDERAL AGENTS		TOTAL	
	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head	Herds	Head
July '50	41	99	14	24	30	63	85	186
August	60	155	3	5	43	76	106	236
September	21	74	50	135	38	134	109	343
October	62	212	108	329	84	285	254	826
November	114	377	169	640	178	670	461	1,687
December	54	168	162	549	56	224	272	941
January '51	83	284	249	1,013	85	323	417	1,620
February	117	437	254	1,134	84	322	455	1,893
March	97	360	231	1,111	79	370	407	1,841
April	63	253	240	1,155	73	308	376	1,716
May	34	113	69	247	59	214	162	574
June	48	153	25	50	25	54	98	257
Totals	794	2,685	1,574	6,392	834	3,043	3,202	12,120

CALFHOOD VACCINATION

(by counties)

Vaccination at time of the tuberculin test under the State and Federal Co-operative Plan was conducted as follows:

County	Herds	Head
Barnstable	8	22
Berkshire	257	1,499
Bristol	224	685
Dukes	14	46
Essex	180	602
Franklin	535	1,932
Hampden	409	1,279
Hampshire	326	1,422
Middlesex	225	868
Nantucket	-	-
Norfolk	117	315
Plymouth	167	468
Suffolk	-	-
Worcester	740	2,982
Total	3,202	12,120

LICENSED DEALERS IN BOVINE ANIMALS

During the fiscal year there were four hundred eighty-three (483) licenses issued to dealers for the sale of dairy and beef cattle, and six hundred sixty-four (664) plates sent out for use on the trucks operated by these dealers.

A total of twenty-one thousand two hundred sixteen (21,216) dairy cattle and one thousand eight hundred sixty-two (1,862) beef cattle were reported by licensed dealers as purchased and sold.

RABIES

Under Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations (Chapter III, General Laws, as amended by Chapter 265, Acts of 1938, Sections 6 and 7) "dog bite" is declared a disease dangerous to public health.

Order No. 34, Section 3 of the Division of Livestock Disease Control regulations reads: "All dogs known to have bitten persons shall be quarantined for a period of fourteen (14) days for observation, at the end of which period if no symptoms of rabies have developed said animals may be released from quarantine on order of the Director."

Investigation of reported injuries inflicted to persons by biting of dogs and the quarantining of such dogs is one of the duties of the Inspector of Animals.

The following tabulation includes injuries reported inflicted by dogs and other animals:

RABIES

	SHOWING SYMPTOMS				CONTACTS				BITE CASES			TOTAL
	Positive	Negative	Questionable	Released	Killed or Died No Symptoms	Killed or Died Positive	Pending	Released	Killed - No Examination	Killed - Negative	Pending	
Brought Forward								738	2			
July '50								1251	1	24		
August								1048		20		
September								829		11		
October								768	6	15		
November								640	2	5		
December								563	1	14		
January								581	3	13		
February								484	3	9		
March								780	4	14		
April								1288	3	20		
May								1374	4	23		
June								300	1	17		
Forward											1028	
Total								10644	30	185	1028	11887

Animals Involved

Dogs								10539	30	143	1019	
Cats								80		24	8	
Horses								9			1	
Monkeys								9				
Hamsters								2		2		
Squirrels										5		
Rats								1				
Skunks								2		1		
Lion Cub								1				
Raccoon								1		1		
Woodchuck										1		
Rabbits										2		
Boar										1		
Mouse										1		
Foxes										2		
Chipmunks										2		
Total								10644	30	185	1028	11887

The heads of one hundred forty-three (143) dogs, twenty-four (24) cats, two (2) hamsters, one (1) woodchuck, two (2) rabbits, one (1) boar, one (1) mouse, two (2) foxes, two (2) chipmunks, five (5) squirrels, one (1) skunk, and one (1) raccoon were received at the laboratory for examination, all of which were reported negative.

Eleven thousand seven hundred thirty-six (11,736) persons were bitten by dogs and other animals. Ten thousand seven hundred ninety-four (10,794) persons were bitten by animals quarantined and released, seven hundred fifty-three (753) bitten by stray animals, and one hundred eighty-nine (189) bitten by animals the brains of which were examined at the laboratory.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Actinomycosis: Four (4) cows and one (1) bull were reported as affected and were slaughtered.

Avian Tuberculosis: Reported in one (1) flock. The birds affected were slaughtered and premises thoroughly disinfected.

Blackleg: Preventive treatment was administered to one thousand nine hundred sixty-one (1,961) animals on one hundred ninety-one (191) premises.

Encephalomyelitis: One (1) horse was reported to be affected and later died.

Glanders: One (1) horse reported to be affected. However, a blood specimen sent to the laboratory proved to be negative.

Hemorrhagic Septicemia: Swine on six (6) premises were reported affected. Investigations were made at these premises and recommendations given.

Hog Cholera: Reported on five (5) premises. Investigations were made and recommendations given.

Listeriosis: Reported in a herd of goats. Nine (9), all of which were does, were affected and died. The diagnosis was confirmed by laboratory examination.

Malignant Edema: One (1) cow, on postmortem and laboratory examination, was reported to have been affected. The remainder of the herd was vaccinated.

Mange: Sixteen (16) cows on five (5) premises were reported and quarantined. All of them responded to treatment and were released.

LABORATORY SERVICE

The laboratory of the State Department of Public Health has rendered valuable service in the examination of specimens submitted for that purpose. During the year the brains of one hundred forty-three (143) dogs, twenty-four (24) cats, two (2) hamsters, one (1) woodchuck, two (2) rabbits, one (1) boar, one (1) mouse, two (2) foxes, two (2) chipmunks, five (5) squirrels, one (1) skunk, and one (1) raccoon were examined for rabies.

Twenty-four thousand seven hundred sixty-nine (24,769) samples of blood were examined for Brucellosis. One (1) specimen was examined for Glanders, and two (2) for Blackleg.

ANNUAL INSPECTION OF NEAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND SWINE

In accordance with Section 19, Chapter 129, of the General Laws, the annual inspection of neat cattle, sheep and swine and of the premises where kept was completed.

Reports received from the cities and towns showed that inspections were made of twelve thousand, eighty-eight (12,088) herds consisting of one hundred seventy-five thousand four hundred thirty-eight (175,438) head of cattle, seven thousand forty-four (7,044) sheep, ninety thousand nine hundred thirty-three (90,933) swine, three thousand three hundred forty-seven (3,347) goats, and eleven thousand forty-seven (11,047) horses. Of the total number of cattle inspected one hundred twenty-two thousand one hundred forty-seven (122,147) were listed as dairy cows, one thousand one hundred ninety (1,190) as purebred bulls, and twenty-two thousand seven hundred twenty-nine (22,729) as purebred cows.

Regional meetings of Inspectors of Animals were held in the month of November in Boston, Greenfield, Segreganset (Dighton), Pittsfield, Springfield and Worcester.

Respectfully submitted,

William Casey
William Casey
Director

